

Message Text

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70 /15

ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

IO-13 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 ACDA-19 AEC-11 SCI-06 SAJ-01 MBFR-03 AID-20

FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 OMB-01 STR-08

CEA-02 RSR-01 /263 W

----- 036412

R 071009Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9465

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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AMEMBASSY MADRID

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PRAGUE, ROME, SAIGON, SANTIAGO,
AND TEL AVIV ADDED AS ADDEES)

EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB

SUBJ: ICFTU EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

1. INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (ECFTU) EXECUTIVE BOARD MET IN VIENNA JULY 4-6 UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP PRES. DONALD MACDONALD (CANADA). FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS GLEANED FROM GENERAL SECRETARY OTTO KERSTEN'S PRESS CONFERENCE AND BRIEFINGS ON CLOSED SESSIONS GIVEN PRIVATELY TO LABOR ATTACHE.
2. EXEC BOARD STRONGLY CONDEMNED FRENCH AND CHINESE NUCLEAR TEST AND URGED AFFILIATES TO TAKE "DIRECT ACTION" AGAINST FRENCH TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS SIMILAR TO BOYCOTT BY AUSTRALIAN TRADE UNION COUNCIL. RESOLUTION WAS NEVERTHELESS NON-COMMITTAL AS TO TIMING AND ACTION TO BE TAKEN.
3. URGED INTERNATIONALLY COORDINATED MEASURES TO FIGHT INFLATION THROUGH CONSENSUS AMONG GOVERNMENTS, EMPLOYERS AND TRADE UNIONS ON INFLATION CONTROL MEASURES WITHOUT RESORT TO INVOLUNTARY WAGE CONTROL POLICIES. FURTHER CALLED FOR HIGH PRIORITY TO BE GIVEN TO MONETARY REFORM THROUGH ADJUSTMENT OF EXCHANGE RATES, CONTROL OF CAPITAL MOVEMENTS, CONVERTIBILITY OF US DOLLAR AND LINKAGE OF SDR'S AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE.
4. ON MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS THE EXEC BOARD ASKED ITS AFFILIATES TO URGE DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS TO HINDER INVESTMENTS IN COUNTRIES WHERE NO TRADE UNION FREEDOM EXISTS.
5. BOARD CONDEMNED OVERTHROW OF DEMOCRACY AND TRADE UNION RIGHTS IN URUGUAY; NOTED THAT CHILE HAD BEEN CONFRONTED WITH ATTEMPTED COUP AGAINST DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED GOVERNMENT, AND CALLED FOR AMNESTY OF POLITICAL AND TRADE UNION PRISONERS IN SPAIN.
6. DECISION ON HISTRADRUT'S OFFER TO HOLD AN EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING IN ISRAEL WAS POSTPONED TO NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING. THIS IS-

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SUE BECAME ONLY CONTROVERSIAL ONE WHEN LEBANESE DELEGATE FIRST URGED THAT BOARD MEMBERS VISIT LEBANON AFTER ISRAEL THEN READ LENGTHY STATEMENT CRITICIZING ICFTU'S ME POLICIES. WHEN CHAIRMAN MACDONALD RULED LEBANESE OUT OF ORDER, TUNISIAN DELEGATE SHARPLY CRITICIZED MACDONALD'S RULING WHICH LED TO A POSTPONEMENT OF DECISION DEALING WITH ISRAELI INVITATION.

7. ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS EXEC. BOARD WELCOMED DETENTE ON POLITI-

CAL LEVEL (CSCE AND MBFR) BUT REAFFIRMED TRADITIONAL STAND OF OP-
POSITION TO MULTILATERAL E-W TRADE UNION CONTACTS. HOWEVER, ON
BILATERAL EXCHANGES AND CONTACTS ECFTU EXPRESSED "UNDERSTANDING
AND RESPECT" FOR MOTIVES OF AFFILIATES AND GEN'L SEC'Y KERSTEN
WENT SO FAR AS TO WELCOME SUCH BILATERAL E-W ACTIVITIES. INTER-
ESTINGLY, ANDRE BERGERON (FRENCH F.O.) ACCEPTED RESOLUTION WHICH
GOES FURTHER THAN PREVIOUS ONES ON E-W RELATIONS SINCE HE FELT IT
REPRESENTS DEFACTO SITUATION ALTHOUGH HE COUNSELLED CAUTION AND RE-
STRAINT. BOARD ALSO APPROVED E-W TRADE UNION CONFERENCE TO BE
HELD UNDER ILO AUSPICES.

8. FOLLOWING MERGER OF INDONESIAN TRADE UNIONS, EXECUTIVE BOARD
WILL SEND HIGH-LEVEL MISSION THERE TO EXAMINE TRADE UNION FREEDOM
AND GENERAL LABOR SITUATION.

9. KERSTEN WAS AUTHORIZED TO CONTINUE TALKS WITH CHRISTIAN-INT'L
WCL AND URGED TO EXPLORE SPECIFIC SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES DIVIDING ICFTU
AND WCL. HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO TURN DOWN OR LEAVE IN ABEYANCE
YUGOSLAVIAN INVITATION TO SEND AN ICFTU DEL TO BELGRADE.

10. ICFTU RELATIONS WITH NEW EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION
(ETUC) BARELY TOUCHED UPON. IN PRESS CONFERENCE KERSTEN STATED
THAT RELATIONS WERE EXCELLENT CITING HIS MEMBERSHIP ON ETUC EXECU-
TIVE BOARD AS PROOF THEREOF.

11. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SOUTH VIETNAM'S CVT WAS
DISCUSSED BUT APPARENTLY NO SPECIFIC BUDGET ALLOCATION WAS MADE.

12. VIRTUALLY NO DISCUSSION AND NO DECISIONS ON EITHER AFRICA OR
LATIN AMERICA.

13. ICFTU FINANCIAL SITUATION CONTINUED TO DETERIORATE LAST YEAR
WHICH LED TO TRANSFER TO 18 MILLION BELGIAN FRANCS TO GENERAL FUND
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FROM RAPIDLY DEPLETING SOLIDARITY FUND. FURTHERMORE, DOLLAR DE-
VALUATIONS CAUSED LOSS OF BFR 4,700,000 IN 1972.

14. RESOLUTIONS WILL BE POUCHED.HUMES

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